Intercity Transit Transit Branding

Meg Kester August 23, 2005 WSDOT Commute Options Conference



Case Study: Branding Intercity Transit

- The Situation
- The Branding Process
- The Results



Branding:The Situation

- Increase Appeal of Transit Service
- Update Outdated Look
- Launch New Era for Agency



Branding:Stakeholder Involvement

- Broad Input Important
- Internal Stakeholders
- External Stakeholders
- Staff as Facilitator



Branding: Objectives

- Define Objectives
- Identify Essential Components
- Establish Criteria
- Include Stakeholder Involvement



Branding:Components

- Physical buses, vanpools, facilities
- Communications business papers, publications, service information
- Strategic organizational philosophy, budget, agency goals



Branding: Criteria

- Keep Name
- Incorporate Current Color of Continuity
- Increase Visibility & Appeal
- Effective Application
- 15-Year Life
- Cost Effective and Sustainable



Branding:Components

- Business Papers logo, tagline, letterhead, business cards
- Communications & Marketing Pieces transit guide, service brochures, performance report, newsletter
- Vehicle Graphic Design coaches, vans, vanpools
- Facilities bus stop signage, shelters



Logo with Tagline



We're going your way.

Logo Finalists







Logo Finalists





• Vehicle Graphics







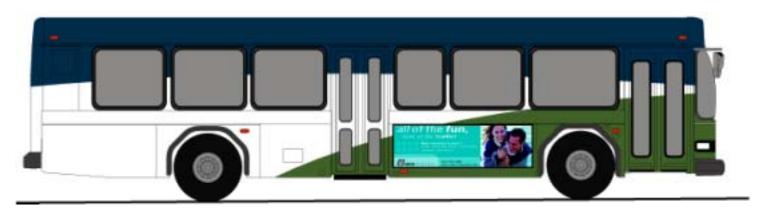
• Vehicle Graphic Finalist





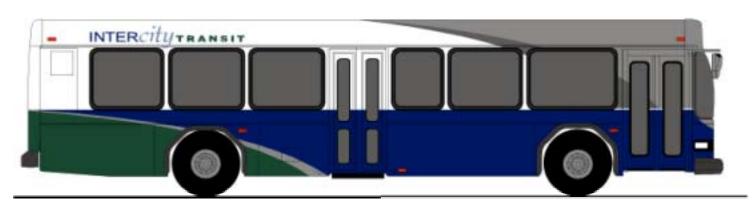
• Vehicle Graphic Finalist





• Vehicle Design



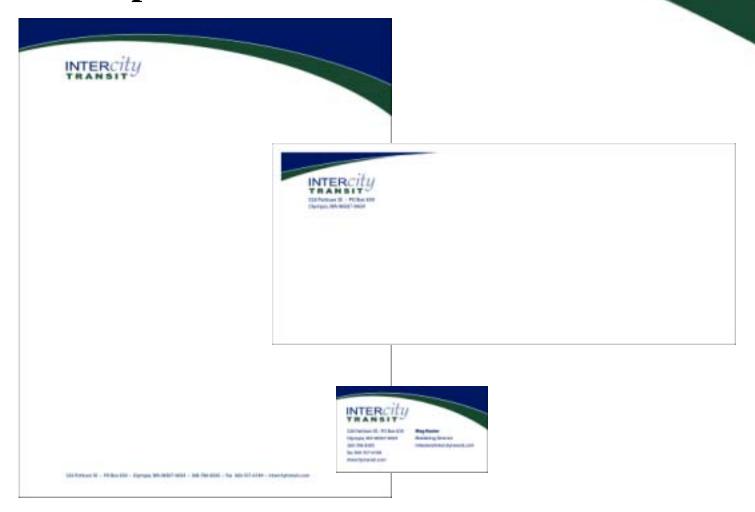


Bus Stop Sign





• Business Papers

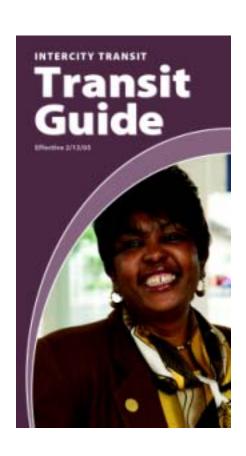


Communications





• Service Brochures





Branding: Results

- Ridership up 14.5% over past 2 years
- Public Embraces Rolling Stock
- Media Shown Interest and Support
- Employees have Ownership
- Expanded Marketing Presence externally (visability) and internally (budget, work)



Branding: Investment

- 44 new vehicles over 6 years
- 30 new bus shelters
- Bus stop improvements,
- technological improvements



Branding: Timeline

- 3-5 Year Commitment
- 2003 Planning
- 2004 Launch (vehicles, events, business papers, communications and marketing)
- 2005 More (fleet retrofit, bus stop improvements, signage)



Branding:Lessons Learned

- Know Your Community
- Buy In Pays Dividends
- Collaboration = Better Outcome
- Good Designers Essential
- Timing is Everything



Thank You

